

Media Release

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ABC's *Stargazing Live* set to eclipse a Guinness World Records title

The ABC, in partnership with the Australian National University (ANU), is calling on all Australians to help smash the Guinness World Records title for the most people in one country stargazing at the same time. This live national event will take place during Stargazing Live on Wednesday 23 May.

To smash the record for *Most people stargazing multiple venues*, the ABC and ANU hope to have over 30, 000 people across multiple sites simultaneously observing an object in the night sky through a telescope for the same 10-minute period. The current Guinness World Records title, set in 2015 by the ANU, is 7,960 people across 37 locations.

To be involved in this momentous event, the ABC and the ANU are inviting schools, astronomy societies, community groups, and all budding galactic explorers across Australia to either host their own star party or attend one of the parties organised by the ABC in Brisbane or Melbourne, or those organised by community groups around the country in both metro and regional locations.

This Guinness World Records attempt is just one of the many highlights during *Stargazing Live*. Hosted by renowned physicist, Professor Brian Cox and Julia Zemiro, *Stargazing Live* will immerse our audience in a celebration of our atmosphere, with a specific focus on features able to be observed from our own Australian night sky.

Broadcast over three nights from the ANU's Siding Spring Observatory (SSO) in New South Wales, the series will air live around the country on the ABC and ABC iview at 8.00pm AEST, 7.30pm ACST, and 6pm AWST on 22, 23 and 24 May 2018. Stargazing Live will also be streamed live on the ABC TV YouTube channel and Facebook page.

To register interest in hosting or attending a star party, visit www.abc.net.au/stargazing or email starparty@abc.net.au

www.abc.net.au/stargazing #StargazingABC

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